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PTO/SB/30 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Petent and Trademark Officer U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED **EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL (RCE)** I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with Subsection(b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plan application filed on or after June 8, 1895.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA). the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313 or via facsimite on the date Indicated below. Application Number 10/574,888 10-014 Filing Date 02/13/2002 First Named Inventor 10/13/2004 Benjamin C.E. Schwarz Date Group Art Unit 1765 Examiner Name Duy Vu Nguyen Deo Alty Dockel Number 5298-06900 REDUCING DEFECT FORMATION WITHIN AN ETCHED SEMICONDUCTOR TOPOGRAPHY This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filling a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(0) (PTO/SB/29) Instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Proctice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 a. M Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 09/16/2004, Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. Other b. Enclosed Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. 🖂 Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) 2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of . MONTHS. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(1) required) b. Other 3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filled) a. [X] The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. <u>03-2769/5298-069</u>00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) iii. 🔲 Other b. Check in the amount of \$ c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) Respectfully submitted. October 13, 2004 Date Kevin L. Daffer, Reg. No. 34,146 Attorney for Applicant(s) CONLEY ROSE, P.C. P.O. Box 684908 Austin, TX 78768-4908 (512) 476-1400

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